

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Original) A multi-position sleeping structure comprising:
a sheet material envelope having an opening into a cavity defined therein;
an inflatable mattress received and substantially enclosed within the cavity of the sheet material envelope, the mattress being inflatable between an inflated in-use condition and a deflated storage condition; and
a cover portion which, in conjunction with a top surface of the envelope, defines a sleeping area in which a person can lie and be supported by the mattress, the cover portion being movable between a first position to substantially enclose the person within the sleeping area and a second position to allow the person to get into or out of the sleeping area of the sleeping structure,
wherein the mattress has a plurality of transversely extending hinges that separate the mattress into a first portion, a second portion, and a third portion, the hinges allowing the mattress to be moved between at least (a) a substantially flat sleeping position and (b) a seating position in which the second portion is folded upwardly with respect to the third portion that remains substantially flat, and the first portion is folded downwardly with respect to the second portion such that the first portion is substantially adjacent to the second portion so that the third portion defines a seat base and the first and second portions define a seat back, and
wherein the sheet material envelope has a retaining pouch on a bottom side thereof that is positioned to receive the first portion of the mattress when in the seating position so as to retain the mattress in the seating position.
2. (Original) The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 1, wherein the hinges allow the mattress to be moved into a propped-up position wherein the first portion of the mattress is folded upwardly with respect to the second and third portions that remain substantially flat.

3. (Original) The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 1, wherein the retaining pouch has a resiliently biased edge that engages the first portion of the mattress within the sheet material envelope so as to retain the mattress in the seating position.

4. (Original) The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 1, wherein each of the hinges have gaps that allow the passage of air through the first, second, and third portions of the mattress for inflation and deflation via a valve.

5. (Original) The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 1, wherein one of the hinges is wider than the other of the hinges.

6. (Original) The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 1, wherein the mattress includes a pillow portion which is inflatable as part of the mattress and the sheet material envelope having formed therein a pillow receiving portion for the acceptance of the pillow portion of the mattress.

7. (Original) The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 6, wherein the mattress includes a series of side by side inflatable sections and, at one end thereof, the pillow portion with longitudinal side walls of the side by side inflatable sections running perpendicularly to longitudinal side walls of the pillow portion, the side by side inflatable sections and the pillow portion being interconnected to allow the passage of air for inflation and deflation via a valve, and when inflated, the height of the pillow portion being greater than the height of a remainder of the mattress.

8. (Original) The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 7, wherein the valve is located on the pillow portion of the mattress and extends through an opening provided in the pillow receiving portion of the sheet material envelope.

9. (Original) The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 6, wherein the cover portion includes an image thereon comprising at least one of a character, animal or shape.

10. (Original) The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 9, wherein the pillow receiving portion is provided with at least one three-dimensional element attached thereto to depict a character, animal or shape that is associated with the character, animal or shape depicted by the cover portion.

11. (Original) The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 1, wherein one side edge and a foot end edge of the cover portion is attached to the sheet material envelope and an opposing side edge, opposite the one side edge, is selectively and releasably attached to the sheet material envelope by a zipper to retain the cover portion in the first position.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Currently Amended) ~~The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 13, A multi-position sleeping structure comprising:~~

a sheet material envelope having an opening into a cavity defined therein;
an inflatable mattress received and substantially enclosed within the cavity of the sheet material envelope, the mattress being inflatable between an inflated in-use condition and a deflated storage condition;

a cover portion which, in conjunction with a top surface of the envelope, defines a sleeping area in which a person can lie and be supported by the mattress, the cover portion being movable between a first position to substantially cover the person within the sleeping area and a second position wherein the person is uncovered, at least one side edge of the cover portion being selectively and releasably attached to the sheet material envelope by a zipper to retain the cover portion in the first position; and

a retainer structured to retain the mattress in a seating position,
wherein the envelope extends beyond the region wherein the cover portion is selectively and releasably attached to the envelope, so that the envelope provides a head engaging region that is unattached to the cover portion, the head engaging region being positioned to receive a person's head when the person is lying and supported by the mattress,

wherein the mattress has a plurality of transversely extending hinges that separate the mattress into a first portion, a second portion, and a third portion, the hinges including a first hinge between the first and second portions and a second hinge between the second and third portions, the hinges allowing the mattress to be moved between at least (a) a substantially horizontal sleeping position, and (b) the seating position in which the first and second portions are folded so that they both have a generally vertical configuration that provides a dual portion back support, and in which the third portion remains generally horizontal to define a single portion seat, and

wherein the retainer includes a retaining pouch provided on a bottom side of the sheet material envelope, the retaining pouch being positioned to receive the first portion of the mattress when in the seating position so as to retain the mattress in the seating position.

15. (Previously Presented) The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 14, wherein the retaining pouch has a resiliently biased edge that engages the first portion of the mattress within the sheet material envelope so as to retain the mattress in the seating position.

16. (Currently Amended) The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 14-12, wherein the hinges allow the mattress to be moved into a propped-up position wherein the first portion of the mattress is folded upwardly with respect to the second and third portions that remain substantially horizontal.

17. (Currently Amended) The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 14-12, wherein each of the hinges have gaps that allow the passage of air through the first, second, and third portions of the mattress for inflation and deflation via a valve.

18. (Currently Amended) The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 14-12, wherein one of the hinges is wider than the other of the hinges.

19. (Currently Amended) The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 14-12, wherein the mattress includes a pillow portion which is inflatable as part of the mattress and the sheet material envelope having formed therein a pillow receiving portion for the acceptance of the pillow portion of the mattress.

20. (Previously Presented) The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 19, wherein the mattress includes a series of side by side inflatable sections and, at one end thereof, the pillow portion with longitudinal side walls of the side by side inflatable sections running perpendicularly to longitudinal side walls of the pillow portion, the side by side inflatable sections and the pillow portion being interconnected to allow the passage of air for inflation and deflation via a valve, and when inflated, the height of the pillow portion being greater than the height of a remainder of the mattress.

21. (Previously Presented) The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 20, wherein the valve is located on the pillow portion of the mattress and extends through an opening provided in the pillow receiving portion of the sheet material envelope.

22. (Previously Presented) The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 19, wherein the cover portion includes an image thereon comprising at least one of a character, animal or shape.

23. (Previously Presented) The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 22, wherein the pillow receiving portion is provided with at least one three-dimensional element attached thereto to depict a character, animal or shape that is associated with the character, animal or shape depicted by the cover portion.

24. (Currently Amended) The multi-position sleeping structure according to claim 14-12, wherein the cover portion includes an image thereon comprising at least one of a character, animal or shape.

25. (Previously Presented) A sleeping structure comprising:
a sheet material envelope having an opening into a cavity defined therein;
a deformable mattress received and substantially enclosed within the cavity of the sheet material envelope; and
a cover portion which, in conjunction with the top surface of the envelope, defines a sleeping area in which a person can lie and be supported by the mattress, the cover portion being movable between a first position to substantially enclose the person within the sleeping

area and a second position to allow the person to get into or out of the sleeping area of the sleeping structure,

wherein the mattress is inflatable between an inflated in-use condition and a deflated storage condition, the sheet material envelope having formed therein a storage area that is smaller in size than the cavity defined by the sheet material envelope, the storage area receiving the mattress and remaining sheet material for storage when said sleeping structure is not in use by a person for sleep therein, and the storage area being selectively and releasably closable to secure the mattress and sheet material stored therein.

26. (Previously Presented) A sleeping structure according to claim 25, wherein at least one edge of the cover portion is integrally attached to the envelope sheet material which defines the cavity for the mattress.

27. (Previously Presented) A sleeping structure according to claim 25, wherein part of the cover portion is selectively and releasably attached to the envelope sheet material by at least one of stud fastenings, loop and hook fastenings, zip or other releasable fastening structure, to retain the cover portion in the said first position.

28. (Previously Presented) A sleeping structure according to claim 25, wherein the mattress includes a pillow portion which is inflatable as part of the mattress, the storage area being usable as a pillow receiving portion for the acceptance of the pillow portion of the mattress when said sleeping structure is in use for a person to sleep therein.

29. (Previously Presented) A sleeping structure according to claim 28, wherein the pillow receiving portion is provided with at least one three dimensional shape attached thereto to depict a character, animal or shape.

30. (Previously Presented) A sleeping structure according to claim 29, wherein the cover portion of the sleeping structure includes an image thereon which is linked to the character, animal or shape depicted by the pillow receiving portion.

31. (Previously Presented) A sleeping structure according to claim 25, wherein the cover portion of the sleeping structure includes at least one of filling material and insulating material to add warmth to the sleeping area.

32. (Previously Presented) A sleeping structure according to claim 25, wherein the storage area is formed by an additional portion of sheet material provided with at least one part permanently fixed to the sleeping structure and at least some of the remaining edges of the additional portion selectively engagable with the sheet material.

33. (Previously Presented) A sleeping structure according to claim 32, wherein the additional portion, when wholly engaged with the sleeping structure forms the storage area into which the remainder of the sleeping structure can be inserted and stored when not in use.

34. (Previously Presented) A sleeping structure according to claim 32, wherein the additional portion is attached to the underside of the sleeping structure.

35. (Previously Presented) A sleeping structure according to claim 32, wherein a surface of the additional portion facing the underside of the sleeping structure when in the in use condition forms an outer surface of the sleeping structure when in the storage condition.

36. (Previously Presented) A sleeping structure according to claim 35, wherein the surface includes an image applied thereto and said image, when the sleeping structure is moved to the storage condition, is externally viewable.

37. (Previously Presented) A sleeping structure according to claim 25, wherein the sleeping structure includes an enclosure structure over at least a portion of the sleeping structure.

38. (Previously Presented) A sleeping structure according to claim 37, wherein the enclosure incorporates a frame over which sheet material is placed to form the enclosure.

39. (Previously Presented) A sleeping structure according to claim 38, wherein the frame is formed of a series of inflatable members which can be selectively inflated to form the enclosure.

40. (Previously Presented) A sleeping structure according to claim 38, wherein the frame is formed of at least one resilient member that is biased towards an erected condition for the enclosure.

41. (Previously Presented) A sleeping structure according to claim 25, wherein the deformable mattress is an inflatable mattress and is inflated and deflated via a single valve inlet/outlet.

42. (Previously Presented) A sleeping structure according to claim 41, wherein the valve inlet/outlet is located at a pillow end of the sleeping structure.

43. (Previously Presented) A sleeping structure according to claim 25, wherein the mattress includes a series of side by side inflatable sections and, at one end thereof, a pillow portion.

44. (Previously Presented) A sleeping structure according to claim 43, wherein longitudinal side walls of the side by side inflatable sections run perpendicularly to longitudinal side walls of the pillow portion.

45. (Previously Presented) A sleeping structure according to claim 43, wherein the side by side inflatable sections and the pillow portion are interconnected to allow the passage of air for inflation and deflation via a single valve.

46. (Previously Presented) A sleeping structure according to claim 25, wherein the mattress includes a pillow portion which is inflatable as part of the mattress, and when inflated, the height of the pillow portion is greater than the height of the remainder of the mattress.

47. (Previously Presented) A sleeping structure according to claim 25, wherein the mattress includes a pillow portion which is inflatable as part of the mattress, the sheet material envelope having formed therein a pillow receiving portion for the acceptance of the pillow portion of the mattress, and the mattress is inflated and deflated via at least one inlet/outlet valve, wherein the valve extends through an opening provided in the pillow receiving portion of the sheet material envelope.

48. (Previously Presented) A sleeping structure comprising:
a sheet material envelope having an opening into a cavity defined therein;
a deformable mattress received and substantially enclosed within the cavity of the sheet material envelope; and
a cover portion which, in conjunction with the top surface of the envelope, defines a sleeping area in which a person can lie and be supported by the mattress, the cover portion being movable between a first position to substantially enclose the person within the sleeping area and a second position to allow the person to get into or out of the sleeping area of the sleeping structure,
wherein the mattress is inflatable between an inflated in-use condition and a deflated storage condition, the mattress including a pillow portion which is inflatable as part of the mattress and the sheet material envelope having formed therein a pillow receiving portion for the acceptance of the pillow portion of the mattress, and
wherein the mattress includes a series of side by side inflatable sections and, at one end thereof, the pillow portion with longitudinal side walls of the side by side inflatable sections running perpendicularly to longitudinal side walls of the pillow portion, the side by side inflatable sections and the pillow portion being interconnected to allow the passage of air for inflation and deflation via a single valve, and when inflated, the height of the pillow portion being greater than the height of a remainder of the mattress.